

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph of the specification with the following paragraph:

The present application is a ~~continuation~~ national stage application, under 35 U.S.C. § 371, of International Patent Application Serial No. PCT/EP2004/052999, filed November 17, 2004, and claims the benefit of priority of German Patent Application No. 103 55 953.1, filed November 29, 2003, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.